



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/277,198	03/26/99	ASAO	Q53565

MMC2/0913  
SUGHRUE MION ZINN MACPEAK & SEAS  
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20037

EXAMINER	
LABALLE, C	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2834	

DATE MAILED: 09/13/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/277,198

Applicant(s)

ASAO, YOSHIHITO

Examiner

Clayton E. LaBalle

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on 08 October 1999 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
1. ☒ received.
2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

### Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_. 20) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

The formal drawings filed on 3/26/99 were approved by the Draftsman. The substitute formal drawings filed 10/8/99 have also been approved by the Draftsman.

After consideration of Applicant's response the examiner makes the following rejections:

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese reference 9-103052 (Japan ('052)) in view of Glennon.

Japan ('052) discloses the stator for an alternator essentially as claimed except for the inner circumferential surfaces of the bridge portions are placed in contact with the axial end surfaces of the stator core.

Glennon teaches that it is well known to form a stator for a dynamoelectric machine with the bridge portions forced into contact with the axial end surfaces of the stator core in order shorten the axial length of the assembly. Although the teachings of Glennon are not specifically applied to a pre-formed coil assembly, Glennon does teach shortening the stator assembly by bringing the end-turns of the coil into contact with the stator core. Such teachings would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to form a pre-

Art Unit: 2834

formed coil such that the gaps provided between the axially arranged elements was minimized.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have formed the stator of Japan ('052) such that the end turns of the pre-formed coils contact the axial end surface of the stator core in order to axially shorten the stator assembly, as taught by Glennon.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Further, it is noted that Applicant did not address the issues raised by the examiner in the rejection of claims under 35 USC 112.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clayton E. LaBalle whose telephone number is (703) 308-0519. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 AM-4:00 PM EST and every other Friday from 6:30 AM-3:00 PM EST. The above number is equipped with voice mail. The examiner can also be reached via E-mail at Clayton.Laballe@uspto.gov to schedule an interview.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez, can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone number for Technology Center 2800 is (703) 305-3432.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.



Clayton E. LaBalle  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2834